

INTRODUCTION

1. *Eternal life - kingdom of God*: life lived now, in present age. Tit 2:11-14. Focus on v14b.
 - i. In v13, we await the coming of Jesus: *our great God & Savior*
 - ii. In v14 we again look at Jesus *who gave Himself for us*: the cross.

1st: The Lord Who Sanctifies Us: the Old Covenant

1. *Purity* is rooted in the fact that our God is HOLY [Isa 6]: 1] moral purity; 2] Otherness; transcendent in being. Separate from common & connected to the Lord Himself: IIIrd.
2. 1st Table of Law: Lev 20:7-8 *consecrate, holy, sanctifies* - same Heb root
 - i. People of God image Him in their sanctity - covenant fidelity.
 - ii. Rationale for theocratic laws: *I am the LORD your God who sanctifies you* [Ex 31:13; Lev 20:8; 21:8; 22:32; 23:19]; Lev 11:44-45
3. OCov ceremonial laws - especially regulating worship. Marks off people of God from pagan peoples to safeguard God's name among men.
 - i. Gal 3-4 Law to define sin & identify Jesus; tutor for children - symbolic depictions of Jesus as the Holy One of God.
 - ii. Evangelical Dictionary of Bib Theol [101]: "The purity system conveyed in a symbolic way that YHWH was the God of life & was separated from death... purification rituals symbolized movement from death toward life" Points to resurrection life.
 - iii. Idolatry is death. God's people are brought out of death into life.

2nd: The Lord Who Sanctifies Us: the Promise of the New Covenant

1. Jesus startled & offended - disregarded certain ceremonial practices
 - i. castigates Phars' hypocrisy
 - ii. compassion greater than ceremonial sanctity

- iii. Ceremonial water - wine of celebration; all foods clean [Mk 7:19]
2. What is Jesus doing? Fulfilling law [Mat 5:17]. Law is not for stone tablets, but for human hearts [Jer 31:31-34].
 - i. Ps 51:7,10, 16-17 David uses ceremonial terms but wants heart purity
 - ii. Ezek 36:22-28 Israel in Exile: 1] describes future blessings w/ OCov vocab; 2] see w/ 2-dimensional flattened perspective: the return from Exile = 2nd Exodus & type of final ingathering at Christ's return
 - a. Lord vindicates His name
 - b. v25 water that cleanses heart from idolatry [Ezek 6:9; 11:21; 14:3-7; 20:16]. What kind of water would cleanse hearts?
 - c. v26 *new heart, new spirit = heart of flesh* [alive], not *stone* [dead]
 - d. v27 - Lord's Spirit - sanctity: new walk of obedience
 - e. 28 - citizens of God's promised land as His people
3. We read OT prophecies as Christians. Already aspects of prophecy are experienced in the NCov. Given the HS: v25-27 - inner cleansing
 - i. Tit 3:4-7 - esp'ly v5 *washing of regen & renewing* = hendiadys
4. Questions to prepare for next study.
 - i. If Jesus' compassion moved Him to break thru certain ceremonial boundaries, does that mean that in NCov all we need is love?
 - ii. How does the NT use the vocab of OT ceremonial sanctity? What is changed and what is continued as we move from OCov to NCov?
 - iii. What is the one ceremonial ritual that is foundational & is that ritual relevant to us in the NCov?
 - iv. We'll resume consideration of *our great God & Savior Christ Jesus who gave Himself for us to purify for Himself a people* - 1Pt 1:15-16